



# NEWSLETTER – August 2022

## WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Next meeting: **Tuesday, September 6, 2022**  
9:30 a.m. - Arrival                      Point Grey Golf Club  
10:00 a.m. - Meeting                      3350 S.W. Marine Drive, Vancouver

***Masks are optional but recommended.***

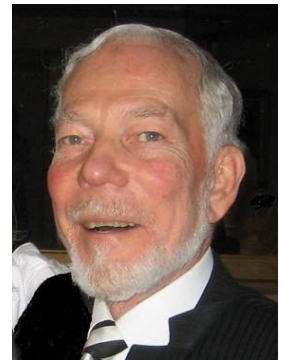
*We wish to acknowledge that we meet on the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.*

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### Invite a guest to hear:

**Speaker:** Stanley Alan Ridley, *BSc (Hon) Eng, MSc (Eng) DIC, C.Eng, MICE*  
**Topic:** Global Warming & Climate Change; Perspectives on World Energy

Stan Ridley is an international electric power engineer and executive with more than 45 years of broad experience in detailed engineering, policy/planning, operations, environmental studies, licensing and regulatory matters, Aboriginal affairs, project management, contract development and negotiations. His responsibilities also included project financing, legal aspects, construction, commissioning and O&M of hydroelectric and thermal electric utility generation and transmission facilities, as well as "Green" energy projects such as biomass and wind-powered generation.



Stan's experience includes 20 years with B.C. Hydro and, as President of B.C. Hydro International, he developed power and energy projects in China, Asia, and North & South America.

For 11 years, he was Senior Vice President (Power) for SNC-Lavalin Inc., one of the world's largest engineering companies. At senior technical and at executive levels, his project experience includes major power and energy projects on five continents, involving more than 30 countries.

In early 2021, Stan was appointed by the United Nations to two of the UN's groups of experts on Global Warming & Climate Change (GW&CC). Stan has also been delivering seminars and presentations on GW&CC at UBC, University of Toronto, and to numerous professional and other groups, including PROBUS.

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Women's PROBUS of Vancouver:    <https://probuswomen.com>  
Contact us:  
PROBUS Canada:                      <https://probus.org>  
PROBUS International:                <https://probusglobal.org>

## **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

President Hodie (Heather) Rondeau began the meeting at 10:00 with a warm welcome to those in attendance.

Isabelle Stroud was the Greeter.

**Annual Membership Fees Are Due: Reminder (if you need one):** The 2022/23 membership fees of \$80.00 are due by September 15. Those with an email address received notification on July 17 plus reminders. Payment by credit card is preferred and here is how - [www.probuswomen.com](http://www.probuswomen.com), Click the "*head and shoulders*", enter your email address and password, fill in your credit card information, and finish the transaction - don't forget to log off. Your receipt of payment will be in your inbox in a few minutes. Another option; write a cheque (\$80.00) payable to Women's PROBUS and send it to: Barbara Paterson (Treasurer), 5749 Athlone Street, Vancouver, BC V6M 3A1 - or bring the cheque to the September 6 meeting.

**New Member:** Susan Macht joined Women's PROBUS this month after attending a meeting as a guest of Betty Hooper - please give her a warm welcome.

**Guests:** Invite your friends to be your guests at a meeting and to join Women's PROBUS. If they go to our website, [www.probuswomen.com](http://www.probuswomen.com), and click **Join Us**, they will see the application. Our dues are \$80.00 per year payable by September 15 with a one-time initiation fee of \$20.00.

**Communication:** Various updates and reminders will be sent via brief emails and will also be in the Newsletter.

### **Action Items**

**Reminder:** Please turn off your cell phones and, as a courtesy, no perfume at PROBUS meetings. The golf club has a defibrillator if anyone has a problem during a meeting.

**Management Committee Contacts:** Women's PROBUS members will find the *confidential* phone numbers and email addresses on the last page of their Newsletter. Please contact them if you have any questions.

**Update Your Contact Information:** Have you moved, changed your email address or phone number? Please update your profile on the Club's website <https://probuswomen.com>.

**Newsletter:** Contributions of stories, poems, jokes and brain teasers are welcome. Please send them to the Newsletter Editor any time you wish.

### Potpourri

What's Up with "Up"?

We seem to be mixed up about "up". Look up "up" in a dictionary and you'll find about 30 definitions.

It's easy to understand "up", meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake up? At a meeting, why does a topic come up? Why do we speak up, and why is it up to the assistant to write up a report?

We call up our friends, brighten up a room, polish up the silver, warm up the leftovers, and clean up the kitchen. We lock up the house and fix up the old car. At other times, people stir up trouble, line up for tickets, and think up excuses. To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed up is special.

And "up" is contradictory: When it threatens to rain, we say it's clouding up. When the sun comes out, we say it's clearing up. If it rains, no worries since the earth will soak it up. Of course, if it doesn't rain for a while, things will dry up.

One could go on and on, but I think I'll just shut up.

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What kind of bee can't make up its mind? Maybe.

Two cannibals were eating a clown and one asked the other "*does he taste funny to you?*"



What disease would cured ham actually have?

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

Why are you *in* a movie, but *on* TV?

## **JULY SPEAKER**

**Joost Bakker, Architect**

**Topic: Vancouver – Evolving Public Space**

Joost is a partner in the architecture firm, Dialogue Design, and has a wide range of experience in architecture and innovation. He is interested in how to do design more holistically and in incorporating cultural diversity. He is a fourth generation architect; his family moved from the Netherlands to Toronto in the 50s when he was a child and he came to Vancouver in 1974. He began his career with a high school friend with whom he began an architectural firm.

He divided his talk into eight sections:

### **Early Reflections**

The first section was about Early Reflections of Vancouver where one can see examples of colonial architecture. Vancouver's planning was heavily influenced by a plan by Harland Bartholomew resulting in Vancouver being car-oriented, single-use planning, and racial segregation. One nice legacy was tree-lined streets. It was very much a top-down view.

### **Granville Island**

His second section dealt with Granville Island's development completed in 1979 for which he and his firm developed the blueprint. Initially, the area was a sandbar intertidal zone used for fishing and then in 1913 was dredged and became a place of manufacturing. By the 70s this was kind of a mess and businesses were leaving, The TEAM civic political party stopped further development of expressways and cleaning up False Creek. Originally the idea was Granville Island would just be parkland. But Federal Minister Ron Basford was one of the forces behind the revitalization, and the Canadian Housing and Mortgage Corporation took ownership in 1979 but with a governing trust with local leaders. In 1984 the trust became advisory and CHMC took over operations.

Joost explained how a great deal of measuring and planning took place seeing what buildings could be saved and how they could be repurposed. The fresh food market was seen as the main economic engine with a pedestrian-oriented environment. Because the federal government was in control, the plan didn't need approval of city engineers, which expedited the project.

The island was divided into "realms". In the west realm you had a Spanish colonial pub, Bridges. The south realm was to be a residential area. There was to be water access and in the east point realm the dumped earth was used to make a park. A new realm was added so that the cement plant stayed and there was a diamond drill manufacturer. Later there were sea buses and it was designed so boats could land for thirty minutes in order to get supplies. The houseboat community was relocated here from Coal Harbour, but no real residential on the island itself.

Early start-ups such as Duso and the Arts Club did well. It was voted best neighbourhood in North America and at one point second-most visited site in Canada after Niagara Falls. One challenge was tourism and tourist buses, and the perception of pandering to tourists rather than locals.

There is now a new process initiated by CHMC: the Granville Island 2040 Plan with a new advisory council bringing together the past and the future.

### Urbanarium Debate

Next, he talked about the Urbanarium debate in which he participated recently about commercialization of the seawall. You can actually watch the debate here <https://urbanarium.org/city-debate-13-commercialize-seawall-video>. A couple of interesting points were made. There were small First Nations villages within Stanley Park and people were forced to leave and middens were crushed there to become the first road. There was impact to sea life in the intertidal zone by building the seawall. To repair the damage to the seawall due to winter storms could cost 500-800 million dollars.



### Heather Lands

He is involved in the new development planned in the Heather Lands. This is the federal land where the old RCMP headquarters is, between 33rd and 37th Avenues. <https://www.clc-sic.ca/real-estate/heather-lands> and this new project has been planned with representatives of Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh nations. The illustration shows an image of what is planned, and it was evident that Joost is enthusiastic about the project and how it has been conceived. I love the concept of the forest trail running through the community.

### Current Debates

The city has a 2050 plan which has been approved and seems to be a top-down plan, apparently the first overall plan since Bartholomew's plan in 1928. One aspect seems to be the idea of 15 minutes so that you should be able to access anything in your neighbourhood in 15 minutes by bike or by walking.

### Rainbow Park

One of Joost's company's latest project has been the planning of Rainbow Park at Smithe and Richards. Vice President Meredyth's urban sketching group met there about a month ago and



found it an amazing use of space and well used. There will be a light show that takes place at night.

<https://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/rainbow-park.aspx>



The talk was followed by a rather spirited question period as some members expressed their concerns with the densification of Vancouver planned, particularly more and more high-rises.

The talk was fascinating and positive as Joost's enthusiasm and optimism were contagious. It would be hard for anyone moving to Vancouver after the 1980s to imagine our city without Granville Island. The presentation also raised awareness about the plan for the Heather Lands and the description of the planning that has gone into this development with our First Nations communities was encouraging. Change can be difficult but with careful planning by imaginative people like Joost Bakker, positive and exciting.

President Hodie Rondeau introduced the speaker; Vice President Meredyth Kezar thanked him and also wrote this comprehensive summary.

